TRANSPORT MARKET AS A STIMULANT OF INNOVATION IN TRANSPORT

Summary

Transport market as a typical autonomous regulatory mechanism, apart from many functions it plays, determines the path and dynamic of technical, technological and organizational progress in transport sector too, and consequently, the effectiveness of transport system in its internal and external dimensions and relations. It is regarded to be the most efficient regulatory mechanism stimulating innovations in transport sector and enforcing innovative behaviour of transport market players as well, being interested in effective meeting of demand for transport services and gaining sufficient value added.

However, the incentive function with respect to encouraging innovation refers not to each of the transport markets. Some of them, due to their infant stage of development, monopolistic or strong oligopolistic position of suppliers else consumers of transport services or simple overregulation by public entity, are in fact unable to fulfil such positive innovative goals in the long run. The lack of full internalisation of external costs in transport sectors and the use of charging practices based only on direct (private) costs instead of marginal social costs, belong to the same category of transport markets’ constraints. Moreover, transport markets with their in effect imperfect form of regulatory mechanism, are sometimes subject to vast impact of transport policy, what not always stimulates them to long-term orientation towards enforcing innovative solution in transport sector. Furthermore, such pro-innovative market orientation depends on the stage of business cycles influencing those secondary markets and is to same extent uninfluenced from the transport policy or other public regulatory measures.

Author presents the role and functions of the transport markets as instruments of innovation enforcement and adaptation to the transport sector not only from methodological point of view. The EU’s concept of transport markets’ forming and regulation has been taken into account and widely analysed in that context, i.e. pushing the innovations in EU’s transport.